

# **Department of the Navy**

## **FY 2006 Annual Occupational Safety and Health Report**

### Summary

The Department of the Navy (DON) continued to enhance all aspects of safety and occupational health through a turbulent year that included continued combat operations and logistical support for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, as well as increased homeland defense and anti-terrorism initiatives.

The Department continued an aggressive initiative to reduce mishaps and lost workdays due to injuries and illnesses in concert with the Department of Defense initiative to reduce mishaps by 75% over fiscal years 2002-2008. This included top-level Secretariat and military senior leadership emphasis to improve upon our web-based mishap reporting system, expanding our Navy-wide web-based safety and occupational health management information system, and increased team-based management of injuries involving safety, medical, workers compensation specialists, management, and labor. We continued to focus on bringing injured workers back to productive work as soon as medically possible. We believe a prompt return to work enhances an employee's sense of worth and contribution to the organization and enhances military readiness, reduces costs, and places an emphasis on prevention of mishaps throughout the organization.

The Department is fully engaged and leading Task Forces under the Defense Safety Oversight Committee, chaired by Dr. David Chu, Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and composed of Senior Flag / General Officers and Executives at the Undersecretary level. The Council and its Task Forces are focused on meeting aggressive Department of Defense safety and health mishap reduction goals through FY 2008. The Department of the Navy chaired three of nine Task Forces, including the Installation and Industrial Operations Task Force, which is charged with reducing civilian injuries, illnesses, and mishaps in industrial environments.

The Department of the Navy continued to focus on senior leadership involvement concerning occupational safety and health. The Secretary of the Navy, Chief of Naval Operations and Commandant of the Marine Corps jointly signed a document that proclaimed the five major objectives for the Department to focus on over FY 2006 and FY 2007. Safety was highlighted as one of these five objectives (another objective included prosecuting the Global War on Terror). The Navy established a senior level Executive Safety Board, chaired by the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, focusing his senior leadership on safety and health initiatives. We believe the Navy Executive Safety Board has positively impacted safety and occupational health improvements Navy-wide over the fiscal year.

The Marine Corps has been aggressive at reducing mishaps and injuries. Senior Command emphasis on safety is at an all-time high. A three- and four-star General Officer Executive Safety Board continues to tackle and promote safety and occupational health initiatives. The Marines are taking the lead in their efforts to reduce motor vehicle

accidents both on- and off-the-job. Several new training and policy development initiatives to enhance safety were established during the year.

We continued building and strengthening our Department of the Navy Safety Civilian Community, which focuses on recruiting, developing, and retaining qualified, competent safety and health professionals, by improving their career progression and training opportunities. During FY 2006 both the Navy and Marine Corps continued to team with the Department of the Army, and participated in a joint safety intern program to assist in developing technically qualified safety professionals. With the new National Security Personnel System, we hope to continue to pursue positive steps to ensure our safety and occupational health personnel have the opportunities to expand their professionalism into the future.

The Department of Navy continues to push forward with the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). During FY 2006 all four Naval shipyards, the largest industrial facilities the Department operates, were pursuing or had obtained VPP Star status (three of four Shipyards are now Star sites). These Star sites constituted 3 of only 5 Star sites across the entire Department of Defense. We also had several other Navy and Marine Corps activities pursuing participation in the OSHA VPP Star and Challenge programs via the DoD VPP Center of Excellence initiative. We plan to develop a formal partnership with OSHA to assist with our Department – wide efforts to increase VPP participation over the next several years.

Department of Navy FY 2006 data continued to indicate improvements in safety and occupational health. Our OSHA Total Case Rate, Lost Time Case Rate, and Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) chargeback cases continued to decrease in FY 2006. Although we performed well in many areas, we did tragically have 4 civilian workplace fatalities in FY 2006. [Note: The Department does not track those fatalities reported by OWCP that occur after a long illness or that would primarily have been reported to close out a workers compensation claim.]

The Department continued to work aggressively to achieve the Presidential SHARE (Safety, Health and Return to Employment) goals. **The Department of Navy was the only Military Department to meet or exceed all four SHARE Goals.** We again achieved 10% or greater reductions in our Total and Lost Time Case Rates in FY 2006. We also exceeded our FY 2006 SHARE goals for Timeliness and Lost Production Day Rates and will continue to focus on the SHARE goals in FY 2007 and out-years as we work to achieve the SECDEF's 75% mishap reduction goal. As indicated in the Navy and Marine Corps reports, we do request that SHARE data be broken out separately for the Navy and Marine Corps (along with total Department of Navy). As indicated in the reports some SHARE data was available separately for the Navy, but not for the Marine Corps.

Further details and statistics on the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps safety and occupational health programs and initiatives can be found in their separate attached reports that are aligned with the OSHA FY 2006 report template that was provided.

DON summary statistics (Navy and Marine Corps totals) follow:

**TABLE 1: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY (DON) OWCP INJURY & ILLNESS DATA**

CATEGORY	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06
Total Recordable Cases	8,009	7,855	7,148	5,572	5,422
Fatalities	2	0	3	2	4
Lost Time Cases	3,982	4,155	3,777	3,160	3,084
Avg. Number of Employees	180,418	181,140	191,890	197,046	176,391

This data is obtained from the USDOL OWCP database. Number of employees was obtained from the Office of Civilian Personnel Management (OCPM).

**TABLE 2: DON OWCP RATES OF INJURIES & ILLNESSES PER 100 EMPLOYEES**

CATEGORY	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06
OWCP Total Case Rate	4.44	4.34	3.59	3.23	3.07
OWCP Lost Time Case Rate	2.21	2.29	1.90	1.76	1.75

This data is obtained from the USDOL OWCP database.

**TABLE 3: DON WORKERS' COMPENSATION DATA**

CATEGORY	CBY02	CBY03	CBY04	CBY05	CBY06
Chargeback Cases	25,793	21,816	24,061	20,018	18,176
Total Cost (\$ Million)	\$248.2	\$246.5	\$245.2	\$237.7	\$244.3
Cost per case (\$)	\$9,625	\$ 11,299	\$10,190	\$11,874	\$13,441

This data reflects the DON workers' compensation costs obtained from the USDOL OWCP database. CB = Chargeback year, 1 July to 30 June.

**TABLE 4: DON CONTINUATION OF PAY (COP)**

CATEGORY	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06
COP Cost (\$ Thousand)	\$3,369	\$3,964	\$3,561	\$2,955	\$3,050

This data reflects the COP data obtained from the Defense Finance & Accounting System (DFAS) - Cleveland.

**TABLE 5: DON SAFETY, HEALTH, AND RETURN TO EMPLOYMENT (SHARE) METRIC AND GOALS**

SHARE Metric & Goal	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06
<b>Total Case Rate</b> Goal is 3% reduction per year	-3.82%	-10.92%	-10%	-16.5%
<b>Lost Time Case Rate</b> Goal is 3% reduction per year	+1.91%	-10.82%	-7.4%	-9.7%
<b>Timeliness of reporting injuries to OWCP</b> Goal is 5% increase per year	+30.9%	+14.31%	+15.8%	+17%
<b>Lost Production Day Rate</b> Goal is 1% reduction per year	-6.96%	-0.17%	-15.1%	-10.9%

Green font – met or exceeded goals, red font (underlined) – missed goal.